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IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROGRAMME OF ACTION FOR THE THIRD DECADE TO COMBAT RACISM AND RACIAL DISCRIMINATION

Report of the Secretary-General

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Introduction

1. In its resolution 48/91 of 20 December 1993, the General Assembly decided to proclaim the 10-year period beginning in 1993 as the Third Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination and to adopt the Programme of Action proposed for the Third Decade.

2. In paragraph 25 of the Programme of Action, the General Assembly (i) entrusted the Economic and Social Council and the Commission on Human Rights, in cooperation with the Secretary-General, with the responsibility for coordinating the programmes and evaluating the activities undertaken in connection with the Third Decade; and (ii) recommended that the Commission on Human Rights establish an open-ended working group, or other appropriate arrangements, to review Decade-related information on the basis of the annual reports of the Secretary-General, as well as relevant studies and reports of seminars, to assist the Commission in formulating appropriate recommendations to the Economic and Social Council on particular activities and the allocation of priorities.

3. At its fiftieth session, the Commission on Human Rights adopted resolution 1994/9 of 18 February 1994 concerning implementation of the Programme of Action for the Third Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination, in which it requested the Secretary-General to submit to it a detailed annual report on:

(a) All activities of United Nations bodies and the specialized agencies, analysing information received on such activities to combat racism and racial discrimination;

(b) Measures to be taken to improve the coordination of the activities of the Programme of Action or to supplement, on the basis of the discussions in plenary, the Programme of Action for the Third Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination.

4. This report provides follow-up to the recommendations of the General Assembly, as set out in paragraph 25 of the Programme of Action for the Third Decade and to the request of the Commission referred to above. The information contained in this document supplements the information transmitted to the Economic and Social Council at its substantive session of 1994 (see E/1994/97).

I. INFORMATION RECEIVED FROM GOVERNMENTS

DENMARK

[9 September 1994]
[Original: English]

Background: Ethnic minority groups in Denmark

5. Of Denmark's population of 5.2 million people the total number of foreign citizens was about 189,000 or 3.6 per cent as of January 1994. The largest nationality groups from so-called third countries - i.e. countries outside the

Nordic region and the European Union - were Turks (34,658), citizens of the former Yugoslavia (11,618), stateless (10,427), Iranian (7,939), Pakistanis (6,368) and Sri Lankans (5,782).

6. These figures do not include asylum seekers and citizens of the former Yugoslavia who are part of a temporary protection scheme, currently some 18,000 persons. The figures also do not reflect the fact that a certain number of people of foreign origin have achieved Danish citizenship. Furthermore, it should be mentioned that some 10,000 persons in Denmark were born in Greenland, the majority of whom may be considered to be ethnic Greenlanders.

7. As for the Turks, the citizens of the former Yugoslavia and the Pakistanis mentioned above, these groups primarily consist of immigrants from the 1960s and 1970s and persons who entered Denmark later in accordance with rules of family reunification. The fact that significant immigration commenced in the 1960s means that a second generation of these groups has grown up as part of Danish society. As for the Iranians and Sri Lankans, they are mostly refugees and their family members who have come to Denmark in more recent years.

Legal measures

8. Paragraph 266 b of the Danish Penal Code states that "Any person who, publicly or with the intention of wider dissemination, makes a statement or other communication by which a group of people are threatened, insulted or degraded on account of their race, colour, national or ethnic origin, religion or sexual orientation, shall be liable to a fine, simple detention or imprisonment for any term not exceeding two years".

9. Promulgation Order No. 626 of 29 September 1987 provides for penalization of discrimination in access to public establishments.

10. Act No. 466 of 30 June 1993 on the Racial Equality Board establishes a mechanism to combat unequal treatment in all its aspects and to support the provision of equal opportunities to all ethnic groups in society. The Board may not deal with individual complaints, but studies, trends and general problems of inequality, on the basis of which it provides advice to the proper authorities. The Board also plays an awareness creating role, for example, by organizing meetings and conferences. The Board is currently working in four main areas to promote tolerance and ethnic equality; the media, the labour market, the police and judiciary, and the welfare and health sector.

Other measures

11. In addition to the above-mentioned activities of the Racial Equality Board a wide-ranging set of activities and measures for tolerance and integration are being implemented in Denmark.

12. The Danish Refugee Council's integration programmes contribute to the social participation and integration of refugees and their families in the social, cultural, linguistic and other relevant fields. The Council inter alia provides language and vocational training, as well as advice and

assistance on social matters. DKr 518 million was appropriated for the activities of the Council in 1994. After a comprehensive 18 month integration programme the Danish municipalities take on the responsibility for further integration activities.

13. The Danish Government facilitates the setting up of - and provides economic support for - various associations and councils for immigrants and refugees, allowing them an effective means of voicing their concerns and wishes in relation to their situation in Danish society. Among the most important examples can be mentioned two non-governmental organizations, the Federation of Ethnic Minorities in Denmark and the Immigrants' Council in Denmark. Furthermore, the Council of Immigrants, which is a forum for all immigrant organizations, provides advice to the Minister of the Interior on all matters relating to immigration and integration.

14. Emanating from such associations, as well as from various other non-governmental organizations and from municipalities, is a wide range of projects, clubs and other activities, aimed at providing special support, inter alia, to immigrant women, children and the young.

15. The Ministry of the Interior administers a special grant for matters relating to immigrants and refugees totalling approximately DKr 5.6 million each year. The purpose of the grant is to promote understanding, tolerance and openness between Danes and immigrants/refugees by supporting meetings and cultural arrangements in local communities, and via dissemination of information. Grants can be applied for by individuals, associations and institutions, etc.

16. In 1993, the Ministry of the Interior also established an ad hoc committee on the integration and rights of immigrant women. The Committee will make recommendations concerning cultural, social, health-related, work-related and other aspects of foreign women's integration and legal status.

17. The Danish Ministry of Cultural Affairs administers a grant, entitled "Sport for Refugees", which supports local associations, etc. that make special efforts to encourage refugees to participate in sport and athletics. Under the 1994 Appropriation Act, DKr 2 million was set aside for this grant.

18. In 1992, the Danish Ministry of Labour set up what was called the "Barrier Commission". Its task was to outline measures to break down the special barriers relating to immigrants' and refugees' employment, vocational training and links with the labour market. The Commission has now made a number of recommendations and the Minister of Labour has presented a plan of action based on these recommendations.

19. In addition, there are various information activities, such as the newsletter, "Nyhedsbrev om Danmarks Udlændinge" published by the Ministry of the Interior, the publications of the Danish Red Cross concerning, inter alia, the reception of asylum seekers, and a variety of other informational initiatives based on film or printed media.

20. With the Government Committee named the "Town and City Committee", a number of ministries have joined forces in action aimed, amongst other things, at discouraging the phenomenon of high concentrations of refugees and immigrants gravitating to specific municipalities and residential areas characterized by large numbers of socially underprivileged tenants. From experience, it is known that this can contribute to negative attitudes towards immigrants and refugees. A number of proposals have been made to encourage a broad range of activities that promote good relations in urban communities. The main areas of intervention are housing policies, education and training, crime prevention and programmes of activation and participation in various leisure activities, associations and clubs.

MEXICO

[16 August 1994]
[Original: Spanish]

A. Constitutional and legislative measures

21. The Constitution of the United Mexican States, the most important national legal instrument, stipulates in article 1 that every person shall enjoy the guarantees set forth therein and that these guarantees cannot be restricted or suspended except in such cases and under such conditions as are provided for by the Constitution itself.

22. In accordance with the law and jurisprudence, two fundamental principles are observed in application of this article:

(a) All inhabitants of the country are equal and enjoy the fundamental rights to set forth in the Constitution, whether they are Mexicans or foreigners and without distinction as to race, religion or sex;

(b) The suspension of human rights is provided for in article 29 of the federal Constitution, concerning emergency situations, in cases of invasion, grave disturbance of the public peace or any other circumstance which may place society in grave danger or conflict; in such cases, the suspension can be applied throughout the republic or in any part thereof, certain rights being suspended in order to deal promptly and effectively with the situation.

23. It follows from the above that respect for human rights and the guarantees of their enjoyment are not subject to the arbitrary will of any authority, but are clearly regulated in the national Constitution.

24. Thus, the specific provisions concerning human rights, such as those in article 3, which ensures the right to education, in articles 6 and 7, which guarantee the freedom to express ideas orally or in written form, and in general the other provisions concerning safeguards of the person, are scrupulously respected.

25. In 1992, the National Human Rights Commission was established pursuant to a directive of the Mexican Government aimed at guaranteeing strict respect for

human rights and their teaching and protection in all areas. The Commission has not made any recommendation since then on questions of racism or racial discrimination, which proves that in principle these practices do not exist in Mexico.

26. To ensure the equitable administration of justice in respect of disadvantaged persons, the legislature has recently added to article 52 of the Federal Criminal Code a provision requiring that the judicial authorities, when imposing a penalty, shall consider the social and economic circumstances of the individual concerned, and the customs and practices of the ethnic group to which he belongs, thus making sure that these elements are taken into account and that the penalty is proportional to the degree of guilt of the accused, an essential principle of penal law in any democratic State.

27. Furthermore, the applicable provisions have been amended to ensure that any indigenous or foreign detainee who does not speak or understand Spanish well enough is assisted by an interpreter and, in the case of a foreigner, that his country's diplomatic or consular mission is immediately notified of the detention measure.

28. The purpose of the above measures is to make certain that, from the very beginning and for the whole course of the proceeding, accused persons are informed exactly of the reasons for their arrest, their legal position and their rights, and can be assisted by counsel and, in the case of foreigners, receive assistance from their country's diplomatic mission.

B. Measures to assist indigenous peoples

29. Concerning measures taken for the protection of indigenous rights, the Mexican Government reports, in the following paragraphs, on reforms of the codes of criminal procedure designed to ensure more equitable treatment of indigenous persons; it outlines the justice programme of the National Institute for Indigenous Affairs (INI) and explains the role of the National Human Rights Commission in this area.

1. Legislative reforms

30. In order to consolidate the protection of human rights in all legal proceedings, particularly through enforcement of the legal requirements concerning arrest and detention, judicial examination and subsequent proceedings before the competent authorities, the Union Congress on 20 December 1990 approved a presidential initiative calling for the amendment of various provisions of the Federal and Federal District Codes of Penal Procedure. The reforms entered into force on 1 February 1991 and make specific provision for cases involving indigenous persons.

31. The package of legal reforms is directed towards four goals: broadening bail arrangements to enable more people, particularly poor people, to be granted provisional release; providing safeguards in regard to confessions by persons charged with offences and protecting their right to defend themselves through measures to prevent the use of torture, solitary confinement or harassment; and the establishment of specific rights for members of ethnic

communities involved in criminal proceedings, including the obligation of public officials to provide reports requested by the National Human Rights Commission, an agency established by decree of 6 June 1990 as an addition to the institutional machinery available in Mexico for the protection of human rights.

32. In the case of indigenous citizens, the law requires that an interpreter must be provided if the person concerned does not speak Spanish. In criminal proceedings against members of indigenous communities, specific safeguards must be provided to ensure equitable protection appropriate to their circumstances.

33. The changes and additions to various articles are principally designed to strengthen statutory provisions to ensure more equitable treatment for members of ethnic groups who know little or no Spanish. In such circumstances it is a legal and human necessity that fair treatment should be ensured in conformity with the fundamental requirement of law appropriate to a State based on the rule of law.

34. Because of their customs, languages, values, legal traditions, social practices and environment, indigenous persons must be given special consideration, over and above that accorded to others.

35. The reforms approved are particularly concerned with strengthening the courts' duty to give due weight to all facts which throw light on the personality and background of members of particular ethnic groups involved in the commission of an offence.

2. Justice programme for indigenous peoples

36. One of the Government's principal concerns with regard to the indigenous populations is to make provision for the fair, effective and proper administration of justice taking into account the historical, social and cultural factors shaping the indigenous communities.

37. With this in mind, the President of the Republic set up a National Commission of Justice for Indigenous Peoples on 7 April 1989. The Commission is made up of eminent citizens and is an advisory body of the National Institute for Indigenous Affairs (INI).

38. The Justice Programme for Indigenous Peoples operates at various coordinated levels:

(a) Studies and recommendations aimed at improving the legal framework through recognition of the specific rights of indigenous peoples and active measures to encourage their enforcement and the elimination of discriminatory practices of any kind;

(b) The formation of agrarian conciliation teams to promote the solution of long-standing inter- and intra-community disputes;

(c) The direct provision of advisory services and defence aid and measures to secure the release of indigenous prisoners under the Law on Minimum Standards for the Social Rehabilitation of Convicts;

(d) The coordination of public programmes and voluntary organizations for the benefit of indigenous peoples through agreements and standing cooperative arrangements;

(e) The training of indigenous advocates and translators and support for the formation of professional societies and associations to furnish defence and advisory services on a permanent basis in indigenous areas, particularly in criminal and agrarian matters.

3. Local bodies for the defence of indigenous peoples

39. Governmental policy at the State level also regards proper protection for the rights of the Indians as a matter of priority.

40. The government of the State of Oaxaca, which has more than one and a half million inhabitants belonging to various ethnic groups, most of them recognized at the national level, crowned its legislative endeavours in defence of their rights with the establishment, through a decree published in the Periódico Oficial of 26 September 1986, of the Agency for the Defence of Indigenous Rights (Procuraduriá para la Defensa del Indigena), a body to be responsible for safeguarding, promoting and supervising the effective administration of justice in indigenous matters, as part of an ongoing effort to prevent and, if necessary, punish any violation of ethnic minority rights.

41. The government of the State of Guerrero - another State with a large indigenous population - aware of the similar problems facing the indigenous communities, established a Social Agency for the Highlands (Procuraduriá Social de la Montaña), by a decree of 29 April 1987, with a view to promoting the overall development of the State's indigenous population, its legal protection and full productive capacity.

42. To date, bodies of this nature have been established in several of the Mexican States with sizeable indigenous populations. They include:

(a) The citizens' Action Office (Procuraduriá de Accion Ciudadana) of the State of Aguascalientes, established in 1988;

(b) The Human Rights Commission of the State of Morelos, established in 1989;

(c) The Social Agency (Procuraduriá Social) of the Department of the Federal District, established in 1989.

These bodies, together with a large number of subordinate institutions at the three levels of the Federation, work together within a framework protecting and enhancing the rights of minorities at the national level.

C. National Human Rights Commission (LNDH)

43. The Mexican Government recognized that a new mechanism was needed to defend human rights which would act independently and to which complainants could have direct access, thus bypassing bureaucratic procedures. This led to the establishment, by Presidential Decree of 6 June 1990, of the National Human Rights Commission which, in its capacity as ombudsman, is kept generally informed of violations of human rights, carries out those investigations which it regards as relevant, evaluates the evidence with care and issues the appropriate recommendations.

44. The regulations of the National Commission make provision for assistance to persons who cannot write or do not speak Spanish: "If the claimant cannot write, the Commission shall arrange for the help needed to enable him to document his complaint. It shall also where necessary provide translation services". In accordance with these provisions, the National Commission has published a translation of its regulations in Náhuatl for distribution among speakers of this language, who form the largest ethnic group in Mexico.

D. Educational measures

45. The Mexican Government has put into effect a series of measures to promote multicultural education:

(i) "Education for all" programmes and special role of indigenous languages;

(ii) Solidarity funds for the promotion of the cultural heritage of indigenous peoples;

(iii) Festivals;

(iv) Research;

(v) Awards and competitions;

(vi) Music, cinema and photography.

E. Violations of the rights of migrant workers

46. Lastly, concerning paragraph 12 (g) of the Programme of Action for the Third Decade (Action at the international level), in which the Secretary-General is requested to organize seminars on racism and racial discrimination affecting migrant workers, the following information is available.

47. The National Human Rights Commission has not organized any seminars of this kind, but in 1992 it published a first report - reissued in September 1993 - on violations of human rights affecting Mexican migrant workers who move to the northern border, when they cross the border and when they settle in the southern border region of the United States. The report catalogues individual cases of discrimination in the southern border region of

the United States which have given rise to increasingly marked hatred of Mexican migrant workers, particularly workers without identity papers, and to the perpetration of acts of violence by groups such as the "Movimiento Illumina la Frontera".

48. The National Commission, as part of its activities at the international level for the period from May 1994 to May 1995, plans to take the necessary steps to publicize its findings concerning violations of the human rights of Mexican migrant workers in the border region of Northern Mexico. In addition, a second report on violations of the human rights of migrant workers travelling to the United States is in preparation and will contain information on the problem which faces these workers because of racist and xenophobic attitudes in United States territory.

II. INFORMATION RECEIVED FROM THE OFFICE OF THE UNITED NATIONS HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR REFUGEES

[14 July 1994]
[Original: English]

49. In response to the increasing severity of the refugee problem - there are now estimated to be some 20 million refugees in the world - the High Commissioner has committed the Office to a three-part strategy consisting of prevention of the circumstances which force people to flee, protection when flight has become necessary, and solutions, particularly through voluntary repatriation.

50. This three-part strategy shares certain objectives with the Third Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination, in that elimination of these violations of human rights would help to prevent refugee flows, facilitate reception in countries of asylum and promote the durability of voluntary repatriation as a solution.

51. The General Assembly has noted the link between these issues and the work of the Office. In resolution 48/116, the General Assembly urged States, the Office and non-governmental organizations to pursue their efforts to foster greater public understanding and acceptance of people of different backgrounds and cultures with a view to dispelling hostile, racist or xenophobic attitudes and other forms of intolerance towards foreigners, including refugees and asylum-seekers, displaced people and persons belonging to minorities.

52. In resolution 47/105, the General Assembly strongly deplored ethnic and other forms of intolerance as one of the major causes of forced migratory movements, and urged States to take all necessary steps to ensure respect for human rights, especially the rights of persons belonging to minorities; and expressed concern regarding xenophobia and racist attitudes in segments of the population in a number of countries receiving refugees and asylum-seekers, which exposed them to considerable danger and, therefore, called upon States and the Office of the High Commissioner to continue to work actively to promote broader understanding throughout national communities of the plight of refugees and asylum-seekers.

53. The Office has undertaken a number of initiatives in response to these concerns. For example, instruction in human rights law is increasingly becoming a part of the extensive UNHCR programme of seminars and activities to promote refugee law, which are conducted in every region of the world. In this regard, a training manual for UNHCR staff on human rights and refugee protection is being drafted, including a chapter on racial discrimination. The issues under discussion include discrimination between different groups of refugees, discrimination between refugees and citizens of the country of asylum, and protection against xenophobia and racist violence.

54. The Office has also launched a public awareness campaign in over a dozen countries of asylum, designed to combat racism, racial discrimination and xenophobia through sensitizing people to remember that refugees are human beings.

55. Children are one of the groups targeted for public awareness activities. UNHCR has developed educational materials appropriate for children in the form of magazines such as Refugee Children and videos such as Make a Little Difference, for younger children, and Soul II Soul, for adolescents. UNHCR has also prepared and distributed supplemental instructional materials for teachers.

56. The public at large is being addressed through a series of three posters, which in the form of print advertisements have also been reproduced in international media. The campaign is now being expanded with three videos carrying the same messages as the posters.

57. Such efforts will be strengthened if complemented by initiatives of other bodies of the United Nations. In this regard, the Office notes its interest in participating in relevant seminars and studies as outlined in the programme of action.

58. UNHCR is looking forward to further cooperation with the Centre for Human Rights under the auspices of the Third Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination.

III. INFORMATION RECEIVED FROM NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

BRAMA KUMARIS WORLD SPIRITUAL UNIVERSITY

[15 July 1994]
[Original: English]

59. The Brama Kumaris World Spiritual University has participated in a number of relevant activities over past years and intend to do so in the future. Whilst the majority of its activities are not specifically described as being intended to encourage respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms for all without distinction as to race, they do have this effect.

60. As an educational organization that highlights the spiritual aspect of human life the work of the Brama Kumaris World Spiritual University always emphasizes the inherent worth and dignity of the individual as a characteristic common to all humanity - in fact the essence of what it means

to be a human being. In the physical realm there may be many aspects, including race, in which humanity is diverse and richly varied but by placing greater importance on the non-physical spirit, in which regard all people are fundamentally the same, we have seen that discriminatory and biased attitudes and prejudices can dissolve.

61. Many of the classes and courses organized, including those held in South Africa, have for many years attracted a broad cross-section of people of different racial, ethnic and cultural backgrounds able to transcend superficial differences with the awareness of the more profound aspects in which all are as one. The United Nations Peace Messenger publication "Visions of a Better World", edited by the Brama Kumaris as a report on its activities under the project Global Cooperation for a Better World, clearly shows how individuals in 129 countries share the same essential spiritual and moral values and aspirations.

62. The experience of the Brama Kumaris World Spiritual University has also revealed how a more spiritual understanding of the self and society can lead to a deeply held self-respect without which there can be no durable respect of the rights and freedoms of others.

63. The Brama Kumaris World Spiritual University therefore believes that a spiritual education can help overcome racism and racist discrimination.

MIGRANTS' FORUM OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

[29 July 1994]
[Original: French]

64. Migrants' Forum, an organization in consultative status with the European Commission and the European Parliament, has issued a manifesto entitled "European Manifesto against Racism". The text is contained in annex I to the present report.

LIBERAL INTERNATIONAL

[29 July 1994]
[Original: English]

65. The Liberal International applauds the efforts of the Centre for Human Rights in taking the global initiative in attempting to eradicate racial discrimination, but notes the need for a third decade in which this is to be achieved. Before the third decade's programmes are put into practice, the reasons for the apparent failure of its predecessors should be investigated.

66. The Liberal International naturally opposes discrimination in all its forms, but especially when the source of the prejudice is simply the colour of a person's skin or their racial background. Such discrimination occurs in the workplace, in education, in media organizations and between States.

67. Far from race relations in democratic nations getting better, in many areas they have got worse. In the United States of America, race riots displayed the worst social unrest since the Civil War. In Eastern Europe and

the former Soviet Union parties of the far right have gained alarming support. In the former Yugoslavia, ethnic cleansing is now known to have taken place. In Western Europe, several incidents have taken place in recent years. This is of great worry to the Liberal International, in addition to racial discrimination taking place in other countries.

68. The third decade for combating such poor race relations, discrimination and prejudice should have two central core elements.

(i) Greater resources should be made available to alleviate suffering caused by racial discrimination on an international level. Where discrimination occurs overtly greater action by the United Nations, and in particular by the Security Council, should be swift in its condemnation.

(ii) Education is an important way for any form of discrimination to come to an end. Greater emphasis on education by Member States must be the top priority.

Educating against discrimination

69. Whilst emphasizing education as the key element in combating discrimination the Liberal International is aware that education can also be a major cause of discrimination. Regimes which control the education and therefore greatly influence the thinking of its citizens in this field are to blame for much of the institutionalized racism. The United Nations must be more forceful in its condemnation of such regimes. At the same time, it is necessary to be alert to other causes of discrimination, such as those of a social and economic nature.

Action by the Liberal International

70. The Liberal International, at its Executive Committee meeting in Budapest 1993, passed unanimously a resolution calling for greater tolerance and less xenophobia. (See annex II.) Its commitment to such principles has been the cornerstone of the organization since its inception nearly 50 years ago and leads to constant activities by its member parties at the national level.

71. The Liberal International is also a supporter of the Friedrich Naumann Foundation's campaign against intolerance ("Toleranz zeigt sich im Handeln") and will add an international dimension to this campaign in 1995.

SAAMI COUNCIL

[13 July 1994]
[Original: English]

72. The Saami Council reaffirms its sincere interest in contributing to making this decade a real step forward in eradicating racism.

73. The Saami Council has a tradition of displaying solidarity with less fortunate groups worldwide, and would this time like to draw attention particularly to the concerns of the San people (Bushmen) of southern Africa.

74. On the initiative of the Saami Council and the Saami Parliaments in Norway, Finland and Sweden, a hopefully long-lasting cooperation is developing between Saami and San. Governments of the three Nordic countries mentioned have given strong support and encouragement in this regard. On 24 October 1990, the Saami Council issued a statement through its office in Finland, concerning the San peoples. The statement was distributed to the Governments of Finland, Sweden, Norway and Denmark. The statement reads:

> "The Saami Council is most anxious about the conditions of the San peoples of Southern Africa, fearing that this oldest aborigine nation of Africa is fast approaching an imminent threat of extinction. The Saami Council is a member of the World Council of Indigenous Peoples, holding a seat on its board. The Saami Council is also an acknowledged NGO in the United Nations body ECOSOC and the ILO. The Saami Council feels a sincere responsibility to draw attention to the dangerous and difficult conditions of life of the San. The Nordic countries are urged to share active participation in the easing of difficulties of the San, searching for ways to preserve their unique culture. Do the Nordic countries see possibilities, e.g. through their development aid agencies, to influence the authorities governing San-populated regions to act in the spirit of the United Nations Declaration of Human Rights and the ILO Convention 169? Do the Nordic countries assess that provisions within the SADC collaboration may be acceptable to entice the Governments of Botswana, Namibia and Angola to introduce special plans aiming at salvaging the culture of the San peoples? Would the Nordic countries endorse an enhanced cultural cooperation between San and the Nordic countries? All mankind would benefit from sharing knowledge with the ancient culture of the San."

SOUTH AFRICAN SOCIAL SCIENCE RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT FORUM

[29 June 1994]
[Original: English]

75. The South African Social Science Research and Development Forum has initiated a project with the aim of remedying the legacy of apartheid in South African research. The background of this project, its main components and objectives are explained below.

Background

76. Since the 1970s, several efforts have been made to provide training and development for black researchers both within and outside the university environment, as well as in South Africa and among the exile community outside.

77. Community organizations and the labour movement have been at the forefront of efforts to draw attention to the need for empowering their communities in order to equip them for participation in the production and reproduction of information, analysis and in policy formulation. Early on,

the National Union of Mineworkers (NUM), the National Union of Metalworkers in South Africa (NUMSA), its constituent unions and the Congress of South African Trade Unions (COSATU) recognized the importance of research to their negotiations with employers, as well as for anti-apartheid struggles. The Institute for Black Research at the University of Natal was formed, among other reasons, to offer young black researchers the opportunity to gain experience while serving their communities.

78. Research on Education in South Africa (RESA) was established in the 1980s in the United Kingdom. One of its objectives was to offer young black researchers opportunities to gain experience and training while working on projects relevant to educational policy in South Africa.

79. Another initiative was developed by black researchers and academics in exile, following a conference on South Africa held at Harare in 1986. This was called the "South African National Working Group" and it was funded by an African organization based at Dakar, the Council for the Development of Economic and Social Research in Africa (CODESRIA). Its objectives were to encourage black South African scholars and young researchers to investigate critical developments and policy areas, and to generate papers for publication, possibly in South Africa. An additional aim of this exercise was to develop black research capability by drawing on the infrastructural support and the methodological expertise of CODESRIA; at the same time, more senior scholars could offer mentorship to their younger counterparts.

80. During recent years, the Ford Foundation has continued to fund the training of black researchers at the traditionally white universities with grants for research programmes at the University of Witwatersrand, the University of Natal and the University of Cape Town. The Ford Foundation has also funded research training at the University of the Western Cape and the University of Durban-Westville.

81. In Johannesburg, the Community Agency for Social Enquiry (CASE) involved research trainees in a number of its projects, including the study of shop stewards commissioned by COSATU and coordinated by Sipho Pityana in September 1991.

82. Since 2 February 1990, the events and processes involved in transforming South Africa have brought the urgency of the need for black researchers more poignantly to the fore. In September 1990, Shireen Motala of the Education Policy Unit at the University of the Witwatersrand organized a two-day workshop on "Training for transformation" as part of an evaluation of its own training programme. The workshop reviewed research training programmes in various kinds of institutions and organizations, both within and outside the academic world. The publication of the workshop's proceedings (Training for Transformation, edited by Shireen Motala) stimulated wide-ranging discussion on various strategies for training researchers, preparing them to work in different settings for the transformation to a democratic society.

83. In January 1992, at a conference on research for transformation, sponsored by the Canadian International Development Research Council (IDRC) and held at the University of Natal, Durban, Sipho Pityana the Assistant to

the Vice-Chancellor of the University of Fort Hare presented a paper on this subject, outlining possible forms of intervention to redress the imbalances.

Objectives

84. The South African Social Science Research and Development Forum (SOSRDF) was launched at a conference at Fort Hare University in January 1994. At the conference, many participants argued for a radical transformation of the social science research system as a way of building capacity among disadvantaged people. Transformation is a multifaceted process. However, at the heart of this process is the imperative to strive for equity, social justice and emancipation from racial oppression, ethnic and cultural chauvinism, class exploitation and gender marginalization. The monopolization of the production of knowledge by white intellectuals calls for a systematic and sustained intervention by critical scholars. Furthermore, the control of research resources by a minority warrants an organized and deliberate response to ensure equity for all in a new democratic South Africa. As the first step of its programme, SOSRDF resolved to give substance to a programme to transform the research system and to establish a national research capacity-building programme to address race and gender underrepresentation in the social science and humanities and to establish a publication unit.

85. The principal objectives of the Forum are:

(a) To strive for the total transformation of the social science system in South Africa;

(b) To facilitate and coordinate the restructuring and democratization of the social science system;

(c) To promote the redress of race and gender underrepresentation in social science research;

(d) To promote the dissemination of the research output of historically disadvantaged people;

(e) To foster and encourage linkages and cooperation with regional, national and international bodies committed to the achievement of similar objectives.

WORLD ASSOCIATION OF GIRL GUIDES AND GIRL SCOUTS

[14 July 1994]
[Original: English]

86. The World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts (WAGGGS) has launched a peace initiative for the triennium 1993-1996 to reinforce the efforts of its leaders to foster the spirit of international tolerance and understanding among members.

87. Helping to create peace has been a primary goal of WAGGGS since its founding in 1928; since then we have worked to support international efforts for peace. The WAGGGS peace initiative includes training modules, events and

an art competition. Twelve training modules are being developed for use in training programmes worldwide. The subjects of the modules are:

- Peace
- Culture and international understanding
- Inner peace
- Refugees
- Pluralism and diversity
- Racism
- Conflict resolution
- Partnership
- Nationalism
- Women as peacemakers
- Reconciliation and rebuilding
- Family life education

88. As programmes and projects are developed at grass-roots level, WAGGGS member organizations might include, independently of WAGGGS, projects relating to racism. One example of this is the project "Presence" initiated by a WAGGGS member organization in Brazil. This project offers young people the chance to develop a critical awareness of their role as citizens and to enlarge their knowledge of various cultures. The Girl Guides took part in an exchange between States, staying with other families and learning about cultural differences. They then took part in a Forum of the Future to evaluate their experiences.

89. WAGGGS participated in the drafting of the Statement on Racism: A Call to Action: Stand Up and Speak Out, which was developed during the Seminar on the Rising Tide of Racism in Europe held on 29 and 30 August 1992, at Geneva.

IV. TRUST FUND FOR THE PROGRAMME OF ACTION FOR THE THIRD DECADE TO COMBAT RACISM AND RACIAL DISCRIMINATION

90. As at 31 December 1994, the Trust Fund for the Programme of Action for the Third Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination had registered a single contribution of Nkr 500,000 (approximately US$ 73,000) from the Government of Norway (see annex III).

91. The Secretary-General wishes to recall that, in paragraph 19 of its resolution 48/91, the General Assembly invited all Governments, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and individuals in a position to do so to contribute generously to the Trust Fund.

Annex I

EUROPEAN MANIFESTO AGAINST RACISM

As racism is becoming commonplace and is spreading in almost daily practices in today's societies.

As racism tends to be the expression no longer of individual people but that of a mass.

As racism is conveyed by extreme-right organizations recognized by the different political systems in almost all European Union countries.

As racism is no longer the mere and appalling expression of rejecting other people's colour of skin, but a differentiating expression and a rejection of non-national cultures.

As xenophobia is becoming more visible everywhere in Europe and given the upsurge of criminal acts against foreigners, in particular towards minorities with long-stay residence in Europe.

As racism is not a form of opinion but an offence.

For all these reasons, it is urgent that forces of peace, justice, equality, tolerance and fraternity within the European Union unite to express and reject what should not appear as fate: the rise of intolerance.

For all these reasons, it is important that the voice of reason be heard and expressed in a call for solidarity with all those who are daily affected by it.

Today it is essential that the active forces in European societies demand that the following actions be integrated in their programmes and daily actions:

1. Adopting a total and final ban of all actions, manifestations or organizations of racist, xenophobic or Fascist allegiance by instituting a Europe-wide legal and ruling base bound to the Maastricht Treaty, with precisions on applicable repressive measures.

2. Allocating a portfolio for racial affairs to an existing European Union Commissioner. This Commissioner would have the necessary powers to witness and prosecute authors of racist crimes and to safeguard the right of appeal, the right to legal advice and the right to claim damages for victims of such acts.

3. Revising or abrogating legislation in Union member States which includes non-egalitarian measures differentiating migrants and native persons and expresses a latent institutional racism.

4. Promoting educational and pedagogic measures against racist acts and banning racist or xenophobic discrimination on grounds of race, colour, ethnic origin or sex in education, teaching and the media.

5. Actively supporting the proposed draft directive of the European Council on the elimination of racial discrimination, called "Starting Line", and calling upon Governments of the European Union to record it.

6. Actively contributing to the European campaign of the Council of Europe against racism.

7. Supporting the highly civic conclusions of the international meeting on the right of immigrants to live together as a family in Europe.

8. Actively supporting and participating in the dissemination of the "Passport against Racism" published further to the initiative of the Foundation "France-Libertés".

9. Granting individual legal status to all migrant women in all the member States of the European Union. All anti-racist campaigns and policies should include specific reference to migrant women taking into account their specific problems.

10. Launching a campaign calling upon naturalized migrants within the European Union to take part in European elections and sensitizing public opinion against racism during the whole campaign.

11. Amending the Treaty of Rome so that the granting of European Union citizenship, which is available to nationals of the member States, is extended to all residents who wish to apply for the status without necessarily having to become naturalized citizens of a member State.

12. Relaxing regulations concerning the right of asylum.

13. Extending the powers of the European Parliament by allowing it to supervise Governments' implementation of anti-racist legislation.

14. Making 21 March 1994 a genuine active day for the fight against racism and xenophobia in all European cities in the framework of an action week.

Signatories: European Union Migrants' Forum, Euro Citizen Action Service, Caritas Europe, European Women's Lobby, Economic and Social Committee, Foundation "France-Libertés", SOS Racism International, European Coordination for the Right to Live Together as a Family for Foreigners, UNITED for Intercultural Action, Centre pour l'egalité des chances et la lutte contre le racisme, Church Commission for Migrants in Europe (CCME), European Union Youth Forum.

Annex II

RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY LIBERAL INTERNATIONAL

Resolution adopted unanimously by the Executive Committee, Budapest, 28 November 1993

Against the Spreading Xenophobia and Intolerance

The Executive Committee of the Liberal International meeting in Budapest on 28-29 November 1993,

Committing ourselves to the principle of self-fulfilment of all citizens and respect for the right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion or belief,

Regretting that all of those conflicts which have erupted since the recent political changes in Europe and other parts of the world directly affect the human dimension of our multicultural and multi-ethnic societies: the experience of insecurity easily leads towards intolerance and xenophobia,

Deploring all forms of racial or ethnic hatred, anti-Semitism, xenophobia and discrimination against any person,

Realizing that education and communication (information and media) play an essential role in the process of understanding and tolerance, which are the first steps towards respect for different cultures, ethnicities and religions, and can be achieved only gradually and by appealing to the new generations,

Concerned that national minorities are essential in our societies and that they play a central role within the new political structures of Europe,

Calls for

Preserving religious, cultural and ethnic diversity in our societies;

Combating all forms of racial or ethnic hatred, anti-Semitism, xenophobia and discrimination against any person;

Special attention, while formulating the objectives of education, tolerance and respect for different cultures in attacking the problem of national ethnic and religious discrimination of hostility;

Equal opportunities in education, as a fundamental right for all citizens, with society responsible for providing the necessary means for it;

Binding international agreements which shall declare special rights to serve the preservation of their ethnic, cultural, linguistic or religious identity and unimpeded exercise of these rights.

Annex III

TRUST FUND FOR THE PROGRAMME OF ACTION FOR THE THIRD DECADE TO COMBAT RACISM AND RACIAL DISCRIMINATION

Contributions received from Governments since the establishment of the Trust Fund up to 31 December 1994
(In thousands of United States dollars)

Country	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994
Austria	-	1 000	-	-	-	-	-	5 000	-	-
Bahamas	-	-	500	500	-	-	-	-	-	-
Bangladesh	-	-	1 000	-	-	-	-	448.85	-	-
Belgium	1 500	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cameroon	-	2 711	-	-	906	-	-	-	-	-
Canada	-	2 000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
China	-	-	10 000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Denmark	8 000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dominica	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1 993	-	-
Finland	5 000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Germany (Federal Republic)	4 000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
India	-	-	10 000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Indonesia	-	-	-	-	2 500	-	-	-	-	-
Italy	-	4 000	-	10 000	-	-	-	-	-	-
Jamaica	-	-	-	-	500	-	-	-	-	-
Japan	-	10 000	10 000	10 000	10 000	10 000	10 000	10 000	10 000	-
Libyan Arab Jamahiriya	-	-	-	-	10 000	-	-	-	-	-
Luxembourg	-	-	-	-	-	-	5 934	-	-	-
Malaysia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	500	-	-
Netherlands	-	5 000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Norway	10 000	10 000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	73 000
Republic of Korea	-	-	-	-	3 000	-	-	-	-	-
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1 000	-	-
Spain	1 000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Swaziland	-	-	-	-	760	-	-	-	-	-
Sweden	5 000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Syrian Arab Republic	-	-	1 000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Thailand	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1 000	-	-
Tunisia	-	-	-	-	-	2 000	-	-	-	-
	34 500	34 711	37 500	20 500	27 666	12 000	15 934	24 441.85	10 000	73 000